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Letter dated 27 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a note from the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, dated 12 April 2016 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Churkin**

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Annex to the letter dated 27 April 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE and, with reference to the note of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE dated 11 April 2016, has the honour to convey the information below.

Since the start of large-scale hostilities in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict zone on 2 April 2016, the Russian Federation, like other OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chair countries, has urged the parties to strictly comply with the 1994 ceasefire agreement and the follow-up 1995 Agreement for the Strengthening of the Ceasefire Regime in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. The Russian Federation welcomed the agreement reached to restore the ceasefire regime, from 5 April 2016, as a result of the efforts of the mediators.

The Russian Federation calls on the parties in future to prevent any violations of the aforementioned 1994 and 1995 agreements, which are permanent and continue to form the basis for the truce in the conflict zone.

The Russian Federation is firmly convinced that the parties must resume the negotiating process in order to achieve a sustainable peace settlement. The Russian Federation reiterates its readiness to act as an international mediator and to provide all necessary assistance to attain that objective.

The Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE takes this opportunity to convey to the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 12 April 2016